

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method for configuring input/output connections in a programmable logical device, comprising:
 - displaying a graphical user interface enabled for said configuring of said programmable logical device;
 - selecting a configuration presentation from said graphical user interface;
 - selecting an input/output connection from said programmable logical device for configuration; and
 - selecting options for said configuring of said input/output connections from a selection set presented in said graphical user interface.
2. A method as described in Claim 1, wherein said graphical user interface is tailored to a specific programmable logical device.
3. A method as described in Claim 1, wherein said programmable logical device is a programmable system-on-a-chip.
4. A method as described in Claim 1, wherein said configuration presentation is graphical presentation of a representation of said programmable logic device.

5. A method as described in Claim 1, wherein said configuration presentation is tabular presentation.
6. A method as described in Claim 1, wherein said selecting of an input/output connection comprises mouse-clicking a graphical representation of said input/output connection.
7. A method as described in Claim 1, wherein said selecting of an input/output connection comprises mouse-clicking a cell of a tabular representation of said input/output connection.
8. A method as described in Claim 1, wherein said selecting of options comprises mouse-clicking a selection from a pop-up window.
9. A method as described in Claim 8, wherein said options are presented in a drop-down list.
10. A system for configuring input/output connections in a programmable logical device, comprising:
- a computing device;
 - a graphical display device communicatively coupled with said computing device;

a graphical user interface implemented within said computing device and presented in said graphical display device;

a graphical cursor control device communicatively coupled with said computing device and enabled to input commands to said computing device through said graphical user interface; and

a programmable logic device electronically and communicatively coupled with said computing device, wherein selecting specific points with said graphical cursor control device on said graphical user interface results in configuration data being generated for said programmable logic device.

11. A system as described in Claim 10, wherein said specific points relate to integrated circuit input/output pins.
12. A system as described in Claim 10, wherein said computing device is a personal computer.
13. A system as described in Claim 10, wherein said graphical user interface presents configuration information pertinent to said input/output connections.

14. A system as described in Claim 10, wherein said graphical user interface presents configuration options pertinent to said input/output connections.

15. A system as described in Claim 14, wherein said configuration options pertinent to said input/output connections presented in said graphical user interface are presented in pop-up windows.

16. A system as described in Claim 14, wherein said configuration options pertinent to said input/output connections presented in said graphical user interface are presented in drop-down lists.

17. A system as described in Claim 10, wherein said programmable logic device is a programmable system-on-a-chip.

18. A graphical user interface for aiding the configuration of a programmable logic device, comprising:

- a device configuration window;
- a user-selectable pin-out window in said device configuration window;
- a pin configuration parameters table;
- a pop-up window, comprising selection options pertinent to the configuration of said input/output connections; and

a drop-down list comprising selection options pertinent to the configuration of said input/output connections wherein said graphical user interface is enabled to accept user input commands in the process of configuring said programmable logic device.

19. A graphical user interface as described in Claim 18, wherein said graphical user interface is enabled to accept mouse-click commands as said user input.
20. A graphical user interface as described in Claim 18, wherein said device configuration window is specifically tailored to program input/output pin configurations on a programmable system-on-a-chip.
21. A graphical user interface as described in Claim 18, wherein said user-selectable pin-out window is graphically configured in the form of said programmable logic device.
22. A graphical user interface as described in Claim 18, wherein said pop-up window comprises selection options pertinent to the configuration of the input/output pins of said programmable logic device.

23. A graphical user interface as described in Claim 22, wherein said pop-up window is enabled to appear when an input/output pin is selected by a mouse-click in said pin-out window.
24. A graphical user interface as described in Claim 22, wherein said selection options in said pop-up window are selectable by a mouse-click.
25. A graphical user interface as described in Claim 18, wherein said pin configuration parameters table comprises selection options pertinent to the configuration of said input/output connections.
26. A graphical user interface as described in Claim 18, wherein said drop-down list is enabled to appear when a tabular listing associated with said input/output connections is selected by mouse-click in said pin configuration parameters table.
27. A graphical user interface as described in Claim 18, wherein said drop-down list comprises selection options pertinent to the configuration of said input/output connections.
28. A graphical user interface as described in Claim 18, wherein said pop-up window disappears from said graphical user interface when a mouse-click is made outside said pop-up window.

29. In a computer system, a tool for programming an integrated circuit comprising:

a graphical representation of said integrated circuit displayed on a display screen, said graphical representation comprising input/output pins; and

a window displayed in response to a selection of an input/output pin, wherein said window comprises a list of selectable attributes for assigning said input/output pin and wherein both pin type and drive type can be assigned to said input/output pin from said list of selectable attributes.

30. A tool as described in Claim 29 further comprising a cursor control device for providing said selection of said input/output pin.

31. A tool as described in Claim 30 wherein said cursor control device is also for providing a selection of said list of selectable attributes.

32. A tool as described in Claim 30 wherein said window automatically disappears if said cursor control device makes a selection outside of said window.

33. A tool as described in Claim 29 further comprising a tabular display of information in cells comprising, for each of said

input/output pins, a column for pin name, a column for pin type and a column for drive type.

34. A tool as described in Claim 33 wherein said window is also displayed in response to a selection of a cell of said tabular display of information.

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